



Indonesian Cleric's Strong Recommendation To Vote Their President



[Antonius Herujiyanto AH13_250818]

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Not only is the stance of cleric Abdul Somad Batubara (41) against Jokowi very obvious, but also his lectures on various religious issues, regarding hadith [the record of the words, actions, and the silent approval, of the Islamic prophet Muhammad] studies and Islamic jurisprudence are also well understood by the people especially in Indonesia social media.

Although his recent refusal against the offer to become the running mate of Prabowo in the 2019 presidential race has surprised his followers, but the recent report saying that he supported one of the two presidential candidates (i.e. Prabowo and Jokowi) is a strong code for them.

Refusing such a report, the cleric [UAS] has stated that if he does, then, he would become a minister and after that he would become an ambassador. So it would be really weird as he had, openly refused to become a vice president.

According to him, he has got no ambition at all to be a political leader with a high rank position and power, although he often asks Indonesian Muslims for doing so. With the powerful posts, he has insisted that they may help the so-called Allah's religion. That's all what he wants to say.

Mentioning that he is not a member of the political campaign staff, he said that he would not spell out the name of the candidates to vote. Muslims should be able to conclude which candidate to vote.

He also said that there had been many challenges and hindrances he had to face, but he stated that he remained the same, willing to look for the grace of Allah.

Talking about the coming presidential election, he said that it was very easy to do. The principles were that all Indonesian Muslims should answer the following questions. First, would they vote for those committing religious blasphemy or for those people fighting against such sinners. Secondly, would they vote for the people who control the ulema or for those controlled by the ulema?

Source: tribun.eramuslim.com/berita/nasional/ini-kode-keras-uas-kepada-umat-dalam-pilpres-2019.htm, "Ini Kode Keras UAS Kepada Umat Dalam Pilpres 2019 (Cleric Abdul Somad's hard sign on who Indonesian Muslims should vote in presidential election)", in Indonesian, 25 August 18.

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